



Position Specification

Vice President for Research

Syracuse University

February 2022



POSITION SPECIFICATION

Position	Vice President for Research
Organization	Syracuse University
Location	Syracuse, New York
Reporting Relationship	Gretchen Ritter, Ph.D. Chief Academic Officer
Website	https://www.syracuse.edu/

THE OPPORTUNITY

Syracuse University invites nominations and applications for a permanent Vice President for Research who is committed to advancing excellence across all areas of research, scholarship, and creative work. This is an exceptional opportunity for a motivated leader to build on our distinctive areas of excellence and to create new possibilities for faculty and students to change the world through research and creative endeavor. The ideal candidate will possess deep knowledge about diverse funding sources and display innovative solutions to support research, scholarship, and creative activities across disciplines and approaches.

Syracuse seeks a Vice President for Research who is ready to embrace the breadth of scholarship across campus and who is as excited about advancing our strength in public policy and creative writing as they are our impact in the sciences and engineering. The Vice President for Research will grow our distinctive areas of excellence and create new possibilities for faculty and students to change the world through research and creative endeavor. The Vice President for Research will advance programs that mentor students and early-career scholars and will create pathways to careers in research and creative inquiry for people from backgrounds that are underrepresented in their disciplines.

Syracuse has a strong commitment to provide the resources needed to grow the university's research, scholarship, and creative activities. The Invest Syracuse initiative is recruiting 100 new faculty to strengthen the University's institutional prestige in research and scholarship. The Faculty Excellence Program of the \$1.5 billion Forever Orange Campaign will create endowed professorships, postdoctoral fellowships, and funds for research and creative activities.

Reporting to the Chief Academic Officer and serving as a vital member of the university's senior team, the Vice President for Research will lead the essential components of our research endeavor – technology transfer, corporate and institutional partnerships, funding agency relationships, and infrastructure planning – that enable and magnify the impact of Syracuse University's research on the world. The Vice President for Research will provide strategic vision, innovation, and bold leadership to build on the successes our distinguished faculty's research, scholarship, and creativity.

The Vice President for Research will possess strong leadership skills, experience, and a desire to advance cutting-edge ideas and to create new initiatives across the University with new and existing partners at a local, national, and global scale.



Syracuse University

Syracuse University was founded in 1870 as a private, coeducational institution offering programs in the physical sciences and modern languages. By 1934, the University's academic divisions had grown to comprise 13 schools and colleges that persist to the present day. At the end of fiscal year 2019, the University's endowment fund was valued at approximately \$1.4 billion. The University has nationally recognized programs in information studies and library science, architecture, journalism and communications, business administration, sports management, public administration, engineering, humanities, and the natural and social sciences. Syracuse aspires to be a pre-eminent and inclusive student-focused research university, preparing engaged citizens, scholars, and leaders for participation in a changing global society through a clearly articulated vision and mission.

Syracuse is a university of national stature and international opportunity, known for its professional programs, investment in research and innovation, and undeniable school spirit. Ranked #58 among the Best National Universities by U.S. News & World Report, Syracuse University offers a large number of highly ranked programs and co-curricular opportunities.

Syracuse University's total enrollment for fall 2020 was 21,322, which includes 14,479 undergraduate students, 6,193 graduate students and 650 law students. The student population represents all 50 U.S. states and 127 countries. Students of color represent approximately 25% of the total student population and roughly 19% of the University's undergraduate students are first-generation college students. More detailed information on student demographics can be found at <https://www.syracuse.edu/about/facts-figures-rankings/>

More than 60% of Syracuse University's undergraduate classes have fewer than 20 students, allowing for close mentoring and support from its dedicated faculty and staff. There are 935 tenured and tenure-track faculty and 829 non-tenure track faculty. Syracuse University employs 3,769 staff members.

At Syracuse, the combination of cutting-edge research, a rich liberal arts core, and a wide array of strong professional and graduate schools creates an invigorating atmosphere in which students can tailor their education to meet their goals and where researchers can easily collaborate.

Research Enterprise at Syracuse University

As a Carnegie R1 research university, Syracuse University places research as a critical part of its primary mission in educating and exposing students to creativity and the generation of new knowledge. Excluding CARES Act funding, sponsored awards in FY 21 totaled \$78.9 million, a 9.2% increase over FY 20. The Department of Health & Human Services was the primary, non-CARES Act funding, federal sponsor, issuing \$15.6 million in awards for FY 21, an increase of 44.6% from FY 20. The National Institutes of Health (NIH) represents 82.0% (\$12.8 million) of the total DHHS funding. The National Science Foundation (NSF), issued \$13.0 million in awards. Non-federal awards totaled \$37.5 million or 47.6% of the competitively sought funding. Corporate awards increased significantly totaling \$17.7 million, an increase over twenty times the funding in FY 20. Awards from Foundations and Non-profit organizations totaled \$11.3 million, including a \$1.5 million dollar grant from the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation to establish the Center for Global Indigenous Cultures and Environmental Justice.



Over the last eight years, Syracuse University raised over \$1 billion dollars in philanthropic donations, dramatically increased its endowment, and pursued an aggressive plan to increase the size of the faculty. Syracuse University's Cluster Hires Initiative is bringing new faculty who are engaging in interdisciplinary teaching and research and promoting collaborations among existing faculty in a broad spectrum of disciplines including STEM, social sciences, humanities, and creative arts. Ten cross-disciplinary research clusters have been created to bolster the University's research enterprise and affirm its commitment to hire, develop and retain diverse faculty. In January 2022, Chancellor Kent Syverud announced the Forever Orange Faculty Excellence Program, a fundraising initiative focused on advancing academic excellence in research and creativity by creating endowed professorship, chairs, research funds, and postdoctoral fellowships.

Syracuse University's outstanding faculty are ready to partner with the new Vice President for Research to advance both cross-disciplinary and disciplinary research, scholarship, and creative activities. Faculty awards in 2021 include two faculty members elected to the American Academy of Arts and Sciences in 2021, two faculty selected for Rockefeller Fellowships, one faculty member selected as a Radcliffe Institute Fellowship, one faculty member selected as a Carnegie Fellow, seven National Science Foundation CAREER awards to junior faculty have been awarded to date in 2021/22, a new record for the University. Numerous opportunities for new collaboration and initiatives exist in the Central New York region, ranging from the Mellon Foundation supported Humanities Corridor to the Rome Air Force Research Laboratory. The Vice President for Research be the lead ambassador for the University's research enterprise in forming new alliances with state and federal agencies, and in developing partnerships with industry.

As Syracuse seeks to heighten its national and global impact, and the Vice President for Research will be able to leverage the University's impressive breadth of programs to attract the finest graduate students and postdoctoral scholars. Syracuse's scholars should reflect and extend the diversity of the University's surrounding communities and our global society. Creating pathways to research careers for students and scholars from traditionally underrepresented groups is essential to furthering Syracuse University's strong work in anti-racism and inclusive excellence. Attracting an outstanding cadre of diverse and talented students and scholars is essential to achieve the highest levels of scholarship and academic discourse that we seek.

Syracuse University believes that a truly transformative learning experience occurs at cross-disciplinary intersections where creativity thrives and solutions to seemingly intractable global problems begin to emerge. When students graduate from Syracuse University – whether aspiring scientists, engineers, architects, economists, physicists or philosophers, social workers, musicians, art historians or entrepreneurs – they have both the depth of knowledge and breadth of perspectives needed to tackle the complex challenges facing our workplaces and world today.

As a private, mid-sized research university encompassing the full spectrum of academic disciplines, Syracuse University is a leading model for inclusive, contemporary education. STEM fields, the humanities and the social sciences find expression across all the 13 academic schools and colleges. Across all of Syracuse University's disciplines, students engage with faculty in world-class research and pursue global learning opportunities that expand their capacity to live, work and thrive in a deeply interconnected world. In addition to a wide range of scholarship, research and creative activity taking place in each of the 13 schools and colleges, Syracuse University is home to a rich array of centers and institutes, many of which promote groundbreaking interdisciplinary work and applied research.



Syracuse Institutional Research Centers

A full list of all Centers and Institutes can be found at:
<https://www.syracuse.edu/academics/centers-institutes/>

A list of the Research Clusters can be found at:
<https://www.syracuse.edu/academics/research/clusters/>

A representative but not exhaustive sampling of Syracuse University interdisciplinary research centers include:

Aging Studies Institute (ASI)

This university-wide institute coordinates and promotes aging-related research, training and outreach at Syracuse University. This collaborative initiative of the Maxwell School of Citizenship and Public Affairs and the David B. Falk School of Sport and Human Dynamics involves over 30 faculty affiliates from more than a dozen academic departments across the university. Many affiliates are also part of the Aging, Health, and Neuroscience research cluster.

Autonomous Systems Policy Institute (ASPI)

The Autonomous Systems Policy Institute (ASPI) is a university-wide, interdisciplinary effort that will advance knowledge and teaching in the field of autonomous systems by exploring new frontiers in the design, policy, law, governance, and ethical frameworks of these fast-expanding technologies. Interdisciplinary by design, ASPI incorporates faculty expertise from all Syracuse University schools and colleges. ASPI's work focuses on all autonomous systems, from driverless cars to unmanned aerial vehicles to maritime systems. This broad and integrative approach allows it to offer a synthesizing, critical perspective on how autonomous systems impact the world around us and what kinds of policies, norms and practices can best shape their ethical and fair use.

BioInspired Institute

The BioInspired Institute supports research into complex biological systems, developing and designing programmable smart materials to address global challenges in health, medicine, and materials innovation. It is an Institute for Material and Living Systems, focusing on four key areas: drug discovery, smart materials, form and function, and development and disease. BioInspired involves faculty from life sciences, engineering, physics, and chemistry and is the hub for the research cluster of the same name.

The Burton Blatt Institute (BBI)

The Burton Blatt Institute (BBI) at Syracuse University reaches around the globe in its efforts to advance the civic, economic, and social participation of people with disabilities. Officially launched at Syracuse University in 2005, BBI builds on the legacy of Burton Blatt, former dean of Syracuse University's School of Education and a pioneering disability rights scholar, to better the lives of people with disabilities. BBI engages in projects on civil and human rights, economic empowerment, inclusive entrepreneurship, and employment. With a staff of more than 60, BBI has offices in Syracuse, NY, Washington, DC and Atlanta, GA; and has generated approximately \$70 million in research activities since its founding in 2005.

Center for Advanced Systems and Engineering (CASE)

CASE is a New York State-funded Center for Advanced Technology (CAT) founded in 1983. CASE leverages an annual state investment of roughly \$1 million to grow New York's high-technology



economy by making the resources of Syracuse University available to the private sector. CASE reports to the Office of Research, operating university-wide to facilitate university-industry collaborative research in information disciplines; to place STEM graduate students in local businesses to gain experience and grow the regional workforce; and to foster university-industry collaborations by providing workspace for companies in its on-campus incubator. CASE works with dozens of local, regional, and national companies, bringing in an average of over \$2 million per year in industry match, and reporting over \$20 million annually in documented positive economic impact.

Center of Excellence in Environmental and Energy Systems (SyracuseCoE)

Led by Syracuse University, SyracuseCoE is a key asset in Central New York's innovation and entrepreneurial ecosystem. The center is a hub for innovative research and product development to improve indoor environmental quality, energy efficiency in buildings, clean and renewable energy, and water resources. One of 13 NYSTAR funded Centers of Excellence, SyracuseCoE strategically brings industry partners together with researchers and students in a thriving culture of collaboration and innovation, ultimately creating new businesses and jobs, strengthening regional and state economies. The Center supports growth and innovation through companies and researchers. Since 2002, more than 200 firms and institutions have been engaged in SyracuseCoE collaborative projects, in addition to more than 75 faculty in Central New York. Through June 2019, SyracuseCoE partners have reported more than 1,500 jobs that have been created or retained based directly on engagements with SyracuseCoE. Collaborating firms and institutions reported 57 patents related to SyracuseCoE projects, \$53,880,448 in research funding leveraged, more than \$8.7 million in capital investments, and creation of 13 new start-up firms.

Institute for Security Policy and Law

The Institute for Security Policy and Law is a multidisciplinary, university-based center that is jointly sponsored by Syracuse University's College of Law and Maxwell School of Citizenship and Public Affairs. The Institute's mission is to educate and inspire the next generation of national security thought leaders and practitioners, through interdisciplinary research, teaching, public service, and policy analysis. By leveraging the research strengths of the College of Law and the Maxwell School of Public Administration, the Institute garners research support from a variety of sources in the intelligence and defense communities.

Institute for Veterans and Military Families

The university created the Institute for Veterans and Military Families (IVMF) in 2011, the first interdisciplinary national institute in higher education focused on the social, economic, education and policy issues impacting veterans and their families post-service. The IVMF is committed to advancing the post-service lives of America's service members, veterans, and their families. Supported by a world-class advisory board and public and private partners, the Institute's professional staff delivers unique and innovative programs in career, vocations, and entrepreneurship education and training to post 9/11 veterans and active-duty military spouses, as well as tailored programs to veterans of all eras. The IVMF also provides actionable and national impacting research, policy analysis and program evaluation; and works with communities and non-profits across the nation to enhance service delivery for the 22.5 million veterans throughout the United States and their families.

Syracuse University Humanities Center

The Humanities Center is a dynamic hub of scholarship and programming for scholars working across the humanities and for those interested in the humanities. It fosters research, promotes intellectual exchange, and emphasizes the deep relevance of the humanities to wider publics. It is



also part of the Central New York Humanities Corridor, a unique regional collaboration between Syracuse, Cornell, University of Rochester, and the New York Six Liberal Arts Consortium.

Research Computing Resources

Syracuse University has a robust set of computing resources available to its research community. These campus-wide resources include OrangeGrid, a 10,000 core High Throughput Computing cluster; Academic Virtual Hosting Environment (AVHE), a virtual private cloud provided for researcher use; Crush, a 10,000-core virtual private cloud for computationally intense research computing needs; and SURge, a GPU-based computing cluster enabling development with CUDA and OpenCL. Research computing resource strategy is facilitated by the university's Research Computing Advisory Council (RCAC), a collaboration of faculty, IT staff and IT leadership from many academic units, representing diverse research interests. For more information, visit <http://researchcomputing.syr.edu/>.

University Libraries

The libraries invest approximately \$21 million annually to provide staff, content and discovery infrastructures and create services that bolster university research. The libraries partnered with the Office of Research to create Experts@Syracuse, a powerful tool that enables insight into scholarly expertise and collaborative opportunities across the university. It is designed to help faculty members, departments and potential collaborators identify who is working in what research or scholarly areas as well as identify grants. Other recent initiatives include the Digital Scholarship Space (with Information Technology Services) and the Blackstone LaunchPad entrepreneurship center (supported by a \$900,000 grant). The Special Collections Research Center curates rare primary materials (valued at over \$200 million) in support of humanistic inquiry and includes the Belfer Audio Archive, one of the largest audio collections in the United States. Digital preservation managed by the libraries has been supported by over \$600,000 in federal funding in recent years. The libraries are the organizational home for the University Archives and Syracuse University Press and manage SURFACE, a database that provides open access to a diverse sample of scholarly, professional, scientific, and creative output produced at Syracuse University (and which recently passed two million downloads). The libraries' Strategic Directions outline a comprehensive vision that supports university research and teaching.

Syracuse University Art Museum

The Syracuse University Art Museum is a teaching museum that acquires and preserves important works of art and uses its extensive collection to serve as a museum-laboratory for exploration, experimentation, and discussion. The Museum strives to foster diverse and inclusive perspectives by uniting students across campus with each other and the local and global community, engaging with artwork to bring us together and examining the forces that keep us apart. It welcomes all visitors to experience its exhibitions and public programs that promote original research, creative thinking, and increased mindfulness. The Syracuse University Art Museum holds more than 40,000 works, one of the largest collections among university art museums in the United States. For more information, visit: <https://museum.syr.edu/about/mission-vision/>.



About the Office of the Vice President for Research

As a research university and a world-class institution of higher education, Syracuse University is committed to supporting a broad spectrum of prominent researchers from physicists and biologists to engineers, social scientists, and literary scholars. Syracuse University fosters faculty-student mentor-mentee relationships to achieve a single goal: to create greater understanding and make an impact in the world. The Office of Research supports quality and high impact faculty and student research by providing infrastructure to ensure data integrity, animal and human subject protections, technology transfer, grant accounting management, compliance, and corporate and foundation relations. The Office of Research works with other university departments and offices to support and foster research scholarship excellence through extramural research, economic development, outreach activities, and other scholarly or creative activities. This mission is advanced through its component units of the Office of Sponsored Programs (OSP), the Office of Research Integrity and Protections (ORIP) and the Office of Technology Transfer (OTT). These units collaborate to provide university faculty, staff and students a wide range of support services essential to high quality research and compliance administration. Other partners include Corporate and Foundation Relations, Government and Community Relations, Environmental Health Office, Risk Management Department, Disbursements, Human Resources and Payroll as well as college, departmental and program staff.

Syracuse, New York

Greater Syracuse is a nexus for the movement of goods and people along the north-south and east-west axes of many transportation routes in the Northeast. Located in the center of New York on the southern shore of Lake Ontario, the Syracuse Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA) is a 3,083-square-mile land area composed of four counties: Cayuga, Madison, Onondaga, and Oswego. The City of Syracuse is located in Onondaga County which is in the region's major metropolitan area with a population of approximately 660,000 recorded in 2015. It has been appropriately called the Crossroads of New York State, due to its central location and the fact the state's two major interstate routes, the east-west New York State Thruway (Interstate 90) and north-south Interstate 81, intersect there. Situated within driving distance of the picturesque Adirondacks and a short flight or a train ride from New York City, Washington DC, Philadelphia, Boston, and Toronto, Syracuse has stunning examples of turn-of-the twentieth century architecture, a lively music and theater scene, the I.M. Pei designed Everson Museum and an up-and-coming downtown filled with restaurants and shops. Little Italy in the Northside, the Regional Farmer's Market, and numerous music, arts and cultural festivals celebrating the region's diversity, make the city a vibrant destination in the Upstate NY area. The City of Syracuse is also home to several other colleges and universities in addition to Syracuse University such as SUNY-College of Environmental Science and Forestry, SUNY-Upstate Medical University, Le Moyne College and community colleges. There are ongoing collaborations between Syracuse University and these institutions on research and scholarship.

KEY RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE VICE PRESIDENT

The Vice President for Research will report to the Chief Academic Officer and will interact closely with the other senior officers, deans, and directors of centers, institutes, and programs. The Vice President will provide leadership for advancing the research goals of Syracuse University and expanding the base of research funding from federal and state agencies, foundations, and the private sector.



The Vice President will:

- Provide direct oversight for the Office of Research, as well as the Office of Sponsored Programs, Office of Research Integrity and Protections, and Office of Technology Transfer;
- Increase the visibility and transparency of the Vice President's position across campus and externally;
- Advance research excellence across all areas of research and creative work on campus;
- Foster and facilitate the implementation of university and unit strategic plans as they relate to enhancing research competitiveness;
- Establish productive research liaisons with research-oriented faculty, staff, and students at Syracuse University as well as outside the university;
- Energize and grow the research enterprise by providing focus and support to secure grant awards from governmental and private sources;
- Strengthen Syracuse's technology transfer efforts and bolsters collaboration with corporate relations and contributes to regional economic development;
- Demonstrates a strong commitment to the professional development of young scholars and provides support for entrepreneurship;
- Foster active research engagement of faculty from diverse backgrounds;
- Be fully committed to DEIA and works to expand the participation in research and creative inquiry by people from underrepresented backgrounds;
- Assist in the development and implementation of policies and procedures that support the University's research goals, including guidelines for creation, oversight, and discontinuation of university research centers;
- Develop research compliance programs and training in the responsible conduct of research;
- Promote institutional program development (program project grants, interdisciplinary grants);
- Develop guidelines for faculty engagement with industry including the issues of faculty time/commitment and permissible use of Syracuse University resources (space, equipment); and
- Take up additional tasks and responsibilities, as appropriate and necessary, in consultation with leadership.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE AND QUALIFICATIONS

Syracuse University seeks a bold, creative, entrepreneurial and collaborative leader with intellectual breadth, strong interpersonal skills, demonstrated expertise in research-driven programs and policies, experience developing and leveraging partnerships, and success leading diverse, complex teams and/or organizations.

The successful candidate must have

- significant leadership experience in developing and executing a strategic vision
- a persuasive and sophisticated communication style who can advance the University's reputation as a premiere R 1 research institution.
- An understanding of the complexities of research agendas in higher education, and be sensitive to the perspectives and values of faculty and students across all disciplines
- a commitment to shared governance
- the ability to collaborate with constituencies internally and externally.
- the proven ability to engage researchers from diverse backgrounds to enhance the university's research collaborations locally, nationally, and internationally.



- an outstanding academic record or equivalent experience
- an abiding commitment to diversity, excellence and integrity, and possess a proven ability to inspire, motivate, and facilitate the success of others.
- direct work with federal and other funding agencies
- demonstrated success in obtaining extramural funding to support research
- national exposure to, experience in, and/or successful record of commercializing research and intellectual property into the private sector

Other personal qualities shall include integrity, ambition, curiosity, putting people first. He/She must demonstrate the ability and experience to be a dynamic spokesperson for the power of research and creative work.

EDUCATION

The Vice President for Research should possess an earned Ph.D., or equivalent terminal degree(s), and possess a record of recognized achievement in research, teaching, and service.

COMPENSATION

Syracuse University offers an attractive compensation and benefits package, commensurate with the successful candidate's background and experience.

NOMINATIONS AND APPLICATIONS

The Search Committee will begin reviewing candidates immediately and will continue until the position is filled. Priority consideration will be given to materials received by **March, 21 2022**. Applications should include 1) a detailed resume and 2) a letter of interest that addresses the responsibilities and requirements described above, as well as the applicant's motivation to apply. To ensure full consideration, inquiries, nominations, and applications (PDF preferred) should be submitted electronically, in confidence, to:

syr-vpr@kornferry.com

KORN FERRY CONTACTS

Paul Chou Co-Managing Director Global Education Practice Philadelphia, PA	Greg Cary Senior Associate Global Education Practice Philadelphia, PA
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Syracuse University is an equal-opportunity, affirmative-action institution. The University prohibits discrimination and harassment based on race, color, creed, religion, sex, gender, national origin, citizenship, ethnicity, marital status, age, disability, sexual orientation, gender identity and gender expression, veteran status, or any other status protected by applicable law to the extent prohibited by law. This nondiscrimination policy covers admissions, employment, and access to and treatment in university programs, services, and activities.

Commitment to supporting and hiring veterans:

Syracuse University has a long history of engaging veterans and the military-connected community through its educational programs, community outreach, and employment programs. After World War II, Syracuse University



welcomed more than 10,000 returning veterans to our campus, and those veterans literally transformed Syracuse University into the national research institution it is today. The University's contemporary commitment to veterans builds on this historical legacy and extends to both class-leading initiatives focused on making an SU degree accessible and affordable to the post-9/11 generation of veterans, and also programs designed to position Syracuse University as the employer of choice for military veterans, members of the Guard and Reserve, and military family members.

And Commitment to a diverse and inclusive campus community:

Syracuse University maintains an inclusive learning environment in which students, faculty, administrators, staff, curriculum, social activities, governance, and all other aspects of campus life reflect a diverse, multi-cultural, and international worldview. The University community recognizes and values the many similarities and differences among individuals and groups. At Syracuse, we are committed to preparing students to understand, live among, appreciate, and work in an inherently diverse country and world made up of people with different ethnic and racial backgrounds, military backgrounds, religious beliefs, socio-economic status, cultural traditions, abilities, sexual orientations, and gender identities. To do so, we commit ourselves to promoting a community that celebrates and models the principles of diversity and inclusivity.